

## PATENT CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A cooking utensil, particularly for fat-free frying or cooking of food to be fried or cooked, having a floor (1) and a wall (2), the floor (1) having an elevated section (3) for placing the food to be fried or cooked and a largely annular depression (4) enclosing the elevated section (3), and the elevated section (3) being curved and/or arched convexly, so that frying fat or other liquids may drain into the depression (4),  
characterized in that the elevated section (3) has at least one groove (8), which allows the temporary return of frying fat or other liquids from the depression (4) to the elevated section (3).
2. The cooking utensil according to Claim 1,  
characterized in that the convex curve of the elevated section (3) is weakly pronounced and the radius (5) of the convex curve of the elevated section (3) is approximately 1400 mm to 4000 mm.
3. The cooking utensil according to Claim 1 or 2,  
characterized in that the elevated section (3) forms the convex curve during the heating of the heating region and/or the burner below the cooking utensil.
4. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 3,  
characterized in that the elevated section (3) passes into the depression (4) largely continuously, without forming an edge.
5. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 4,

characterized in that the depression (4) is curved concavely and the radius (7) of the concave curve of the depression (4) is approximately 13 mm to 15 mm.

6. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 5,  
characterized in that the groove (8) discharges into the depression (4) and preferably diverges in the direction of the depression (4).
7. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 6,  
characterized in that the groove (8) in the elevated section (3) is implemented in such a way that no undercuts result and a largely edgeless surface of the elevated section (3) is provided.
8. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 7,  
characterized in that the radius (10, 11) of the concave curve of the groove (8) is approximately 2 to 3 mm and the radius (13) of the convex curves of the groove (8) is approximately 3 mm.
9. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 8,  
characterized in that multiple, particularly parallel grooves (8) are provided and the radii (10) of the concave curve of the outer grooves (8) are somewhat smaller than those of the inner grooves (8).
10. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 9,  
characterized in that the groove (8) extends over more than half of the elevated section (3).

11. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 10,  
characterized in that the depression (4) has at least one expansion (15) for collecting frying fat or other liquids.
12. The cooking utensil according to Claim 11,  
characterized in that the depression has a slope toward the expansion.
13. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 12 in connection with Claims 11 or 12,  
characterized in that the groove (8) discharges into the expansion (15).
14. The cooking utensil according to one of Claims 1 through 13,  
characterized in that the floor (1) and the wall (2) are manufactured from aluminum, iron, stainless steel, or copper.
15. The cooking utensil according to Claim 14,  
characterized in that cooking utensils made of stainless steel are sealed with an antistick coating.